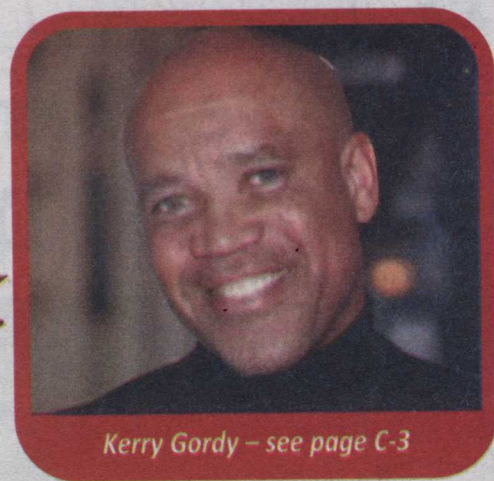


#11 Frances Howard Goldwyn
Hollywood Regional Library
1623 Ivar Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90028



Vainayaki – see page A-5



Kerry Gordy – see page C-3

Vol. 92, No. 34 • \$1.00 +CA. Sales Tax

"For Over Ninety Years The Voice of Our Community Speaking for Itself"

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025

Mayor Bass, LAFD Outline City Actions to Keep Angelenos Safe Ahead of Expected High Temperatures



MAYOR.LACITY.GOV
Mayor Karen Bass



COURTESY PHOTO
Interim Fire Chief Ronnie Villanueva

Extended Period of Heat and Fire Weather

Impacts:

- ❖ High risk for heat illness for populations sensitive to heat
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Actions:

especially for mountains and valleys

- ❖ Adjust plans strenuous outdoor activities to morning hours or another week
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Maximum Temperature Forecast (°F)

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Los Angeles	79	83	84	85	90	90	89	87
Burbank	83	87	89	95	100	100	98	95
Santa Monica	71	74	74	75	79	79	78	76
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Santa Maria	70	74	72	76	82	78	74	73
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NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

STAFF AND WIRE REPORT

Mayor Karen Bass, LAFD Interim Fire Chief Ronnie Villanueva and other city leaders outlined actions on August 19 that city departments have taken to protect Angelenos and keep the city safe ahead of expected high

temperatures in the coming days.

The National Weather Service has issued an Extreme Heat Warning in the Los Angeles region starting Thursday, August 21, through at least Saturday, August 23, with temperatures expected to reach as high as 108 in the

San Fernando Valley.

"Ahead of potentially some of the hottest temperatures of the summer this week, LAFD and City Departments have been taking action to keep Angelenos cool and safe,"

said Bass.

"These temperatures could be dangerous, especially for our most vulnerable residents. Please stay cool, stay hydrated, check on neighbors, and know that resources are available

citywide to help keep you safe."

According to a statement from the mayor's office, a coordinated effort to manage any heat emergencies was underway.

"The Mayor's Office of

Public Safety, Emergency Management Department, LAFD, LAPD, Recreation and Parks, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and other city departments (are taking

{See HEAT WAVE on B-7}

Los Angeles' First Black Mayor's Residence Designated Historic-Cultural Monument

Councilwoman Heather Hutt, Getty Conservation, and city officials unveiled plaques and visited three locations.

BY BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

Recently, Councilwoman Heather Hutt and the Getty held a series of plaque unveiling ceremonies celebrating three

newly designated historic-cultural monuments that honor Black history and heritage in Los Angeles.

The sites were the late Tom and Ethel Bradley's residence, home of L.A.'s first Black mayor and his

wife; St. Elmo Village, a long-standing Black arts collective and residential space; and Jewel's Catch One, a historic safe haven

{See BRADLEY HISTORICAL LANDMARK on B-7}



BRIAN W. CARTER/L.A. SENTINEL

Toney and Lorraine Bradley with Councilwoman Heather Hutt unveil the Bradley home as a historic landmark.





MAYOR.LACITY.GOV
Mayor Karen Bass



COURTESY PHOTO
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NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

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{See BRADLEY HISTORICAL LANDMARK on B-7}



Toney and Lorraine Bradley with Councilwoman Heather Hutt unveil the Bradley home as a historic landmark.



Councilwoman Heather Hutt gives remarks in front of Bradley residence.



Bradley family members pose for a picture.

Julian Williams Surfs to Inspire the Next Generation

By AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

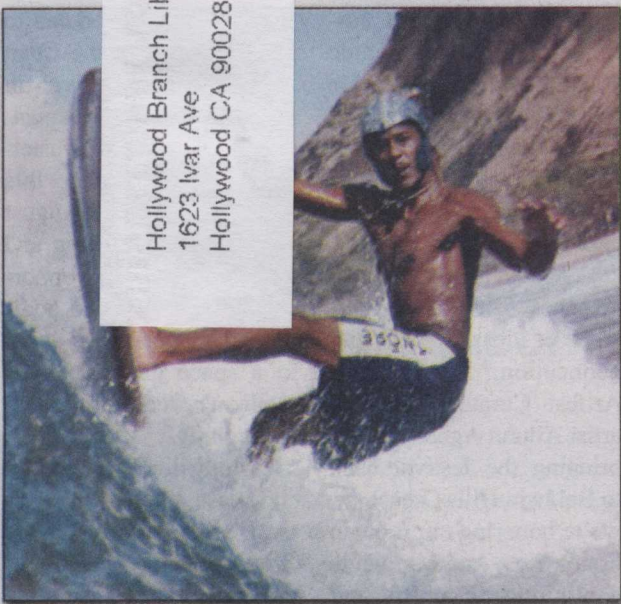
With every surfing competition, Julian Williams strives for something more

than winning. He desires to increase representation. Williams is a Black Hawaiian who recently competed in the World Surf League U.S. Open.

"I do surf because I love it but I do surf because of the bigger picture of we need to have more surfers like me in the water," Williams said. "There's no reason that there shouldn't be 30 other kids, 40, 50 other kids that have this same opportunity, to be able to compete in the U.S. Open in the years to come."

Williams earned the

{See SURFER JULIAN WILLIAMS on B-7}



Julian Williams competes in longboard and shortboard competitions.



Williams works and competes to promote Black representation in surfing.



Williams was granted a wild card entry into the WSL U.S. Open from competing in A Great Day in the Stoke.

Hollywood Branch Library
1623 Ivar Ave
Hollywood CA 90028-6304

ck Mayors

creating innovative local policies rooted in justice. The challenges cities face, from public safety to housing, from education to economic inclusion, demand comprehensive solutions and collaborative leadership. But they do not need are politically charged narratives to undermine progress and divide communities. To be equal, America must trust the leadership of its Black community. It must invest in their education. And it must recognize the historic and ongoing contributions of Black mayors who have turned local government into a platform for transformative change. Their legacy is not one of chaos. It is one of courage, care, and commitment to what is right. Marc H. Morial is the past president of the National Urban League, the former mayor of New Orleans, and a former Louisiana State Senator.

divided against itself stand. We can't afford the Left continuously tearing the house we call America apart without a fight. We got a country to save and we're starting with the work we can do now." "If I were a friend of yours, I'd know what I'd be doing to him now! This is a crisis we're facing, but we're discouraged. We just have to work harder to find a way around the country who are fighting from wrong and against Tim's kind of lies!" E. Faye Williams is the author of "The Dick Gregory Society." Visit www.thedickgregorysociety.com.

PUBLIC AUCTION/SALES

NOTICE OF SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY: I, the undersigned, hereby give notice that I am offering for sale and pursuant to the provisions of the California Code of Civil Procedure, the property of the late Robert Brian Williams, whose last address was 1649 S. La Brea Apt. 10, Los Angeles, California 90019, will be sold at public auction on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the location of the sale.

LOCATION OF SALE: 1649 S. La Brea Apt. 10, Los Angeles, California 90019. Items for sale include: furniture, electronics, clothing, and other personal belongings.

LEGAL NOTICES: This notice is being published in the Los Angeles Sentinel newspaper.

BRADLEY HISTORICAL LANDMARK

{Continued from A-1}

for Black LGBTQ+ nightlife and activism.

"There's some history and there's some contributions of people who made a real effort to make our city great," said Hutt.

"So, you'll be able to see them, look them up, kids will be able to look up more about the history, more about the contributions and more about why those contributions are making changes."

These designations are part of the ongoing initiative by the African American Historic Places Los Angeles (AAHPLA). The L.A. Sentinel was on-site at the designation of the Bradley home where Hutt, Vince Berton, City of Los Angeles Planning Department; Rita Cofield, Getty Conservation; along with Lorraine and Toney Bradley and fam-

ily members, spoke about the importance of this designation as a historical monument.

"He was a mayor for 20 years in Los Angeles and he was the council member right here in the 10th district first," said Hutt.

"We're in Leimert Park and what we've done is designated this home as a historical monument—it's an amazing day."

Hutt continued, "His children are here, they've been able to talk about their experience growing up in the community, it wasn't really as multicultural as it is today."

"Oh, it's so very exciting because our parents were just the bravest people I could tell you—to move here, under such hostility and to make a life for all of us here was the best

thing that could happen," said Lorraine Bradley.

"Getty has been really intentional about how they're memorializing spaces all over Los Angeles," said Hutt.

"It feels amazing because everyone knew its importance, but to get this plaque was solidifying," said Cofield. "It's putting a stamp on what everybody already knew."

The AAHPLA initiative is very important stated Hutt, who says in today's day and age, Black history is in danger.

"It's a very exciting day especially for folks that worked hard to commemorate this place at a time where so much of our history is trying to be erased," said Hutt. She shared that designating sites takes time, but she is happy to



From left, Toney and Lorraine Bradley give remarks about growing up in a very different community.

see it happening now.

"They went through the whole process and I'm happy that it's happening under my watch," said Hutt.

"They saw opportunities that were better here

and that's one of the reasons we moved and the community finally came around, took a while, but look at this neighborhood now, fully integrated, everybody from every ethnicity here because they

know they have the opportunity to make a life and that's what it's all about," said Bradley.

"I thank them so much for their courage and my sister and I made it because of them."

SURFER JULIAN WILLIAMS

{Continued from A-1}

wild card spot through a Great Day in the Stoke: an annual festival for Black surfers. The festival holds surf competitions, yoga sessions, and surf lessons.

"It was a cool, eye-opening experience, not only to know that there's a bigger, wider community in the surf world, but we have a solid representation when we're given the opportunity," Williams said.

A native of the North Shore of O'ahu in Hawaii, Williams first surfed during a birthday party thrown by one of his teammates when he played basketball. He had a hard time learning early on, but the rush of standing on the board for the first time stuck with him throughout his career.

"My mom had to buy a megaphone to call me out



The Ebony Beach Club helped Williams get a better understanding of himself.

of the water just because I would never get out of the water," Williams said.

"There were instances where she actually left me at the beach and luckily we

didn't live too far away."

Family members taught him how to dive and bodyboard, but none of them had experience in surfing.

"That was my own motivational drive to figure something out," Williams said. "I love basketball, but it wasn't one of those things that was super fun to do in the hot, humid sun in Hawaii."

Williams competes in both longboard and shortboard competitions. He strives to be in the water everyday; he is willing to take on extra jobs and sacrifice to be in competitions.

"We gave up having an apartment space and lived in our car for a whole contest streak," Williams said. "It allowed me to take out both the longboarding and the shortboarding divisions for that entire year."

Longboarding is more like stereotypical surfing and more laid back than the belligerent competition of shortboarding, according to Williams.

"Longboards, you don't see them riding in really big surf," Williams said. "It's more graceful, more focused on technique. A lot more focus on footwork, a lot more focus on your board and your body on the waves."

When Williams moved to Los Angeles, he found refuge and community with the Ebony Beach Club. Justin "Brick" Howze, the co-founder of Ebony Beach Club, befriended Williams as he got accustomed to living in Los Angeles. Williams credits Ebony Beach Club for understanding who he is.

"[Howze] took me in

like a little brother and showed me around and took me to certain surf spots that I never heard of and allowed me to be a part of some really cool events," Williams said. "They pushed me as a pro surfer ... It gave me clout as we were going around and that did help me out too."

Competing in the U.S. Open allowed Williams to network with other pro surfers and gain advice from them. He also learned that he has a fan base.

"I didn't realize that many people knew who I was in the community," Williams said. "Being able to socially be there for all of that, that part was really cool to take photos with all those people but then not letting that overtake the task at hand."

HEAT WAVE

{Continued from A-1}

steps) to ensure all are ready to respond as needed," according to Bass' office. Angelenos are also encouraged to sign up for NotifyLA.org to receive heat and adverse weather alerts on your phone.

The Los Angeles Fire Department said it is monitoring the forecast and making necessary preparations to meet emergency demands during the heat wave. LAFD added Crew 4, which is a team made up of 26 specially trained personnel who will respond to wildfires within and around the city.

Gov. Gavin Newsom also said the state had pre-deployed firefighting resources to Los Angeles County -- totaling 10 fire engines, two water tenders, two bulldozers, one helicopter, two hand crews, three dispatchers and one Incident

Management Team.

Los Angeles will also open augmented cooling centers throughout the city and hundreds of locations for relief from the heat.

For locations and hours of operation, visit laparks.org/reccenter and lapl.org/branches.

The city is also opening the additional cooling centers that are accessible to people with disabilities and will be open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the days listed below:

From Thursday through Saturday:

- Canoga Park Senior Citizen Center, 7326 Jordan Ave.; and

- North Hollywood Senior Citizen Center, 5301 Tujunga Ave.

From Thursday through Friday:

- Pecan Recreation Cen-

ter, 145 S. Pecan St., Los Angeles; and

- Algin Sutton Recreation Center, 8800 S. Hoover St., Los Angeles.

To assist unhoused individuals, LAHSA is conducting outreach to inform Angelenos of the extreme heat and provide them with heat safety information, cooling center locations, water bottles, and other supplies -- especially in the San Fernando Valley. Outreach across the city will continue throughout this week and into the weekend.

In addition, LAHSA has activated hotel vouchers across the City of L.A. to bring people experiencing homelessness indoors. These are distributed through the LAHSA outreach teams.

Climate stations that provide cold beverages, seating, shade, and more are open in

Skid Row for Angelenos to stay cool. Stations are operating at:

- Towne St. (between 5th St. & 6th St.) across the street from the ReFresh Spot
- San Pedro St., mid-block between 6th St. & 7th St.

- 5th and Maple

The ReFresh Spot located at 544 Towne Avenue is also open and provides the Skid Row community access to drinking water, restrooms, showers, and laundry facilities. The ReFresh Spot is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to anyone in the community, free of charge.

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) reminds Angelenos to conserve energy use where possible as demand for electricity may increase as customers run air condi-

tioners. LADWP recommends the following to conserve electricity safely while helping reduce any potential strain on neighborhood electrical infrastructure:

- Adjust air conditioning thermostats to 78 degrees. If you are away from your home and do not have pets inside, turn off the air conditioning system.

- Limit the use of major appliances such as washing machines, vacuum cleaners, and dishwashers to before 4:00 PM or after 9:00 PM.

- Ventilate your home in the early morning and evening by opening windows and doors to clear out the heat and allow cooler air to circulate. Close curtains, shades or blinds during warmer hours to reduce heat from direct sunlight.

- Turn off lights and other electrical equipment

when not in use.

- Unplug energy vampires like cellphone and computer chargers, and other appliances that use energy when not in use.

- Avoid using the stove and oven if possible, which can help keep indoor temperatures down.

In the event of a power outage:

- Report power outages at www.ladwp.com/outages or by calling 1-800-DIAL-DWP (1-800-342-5397).

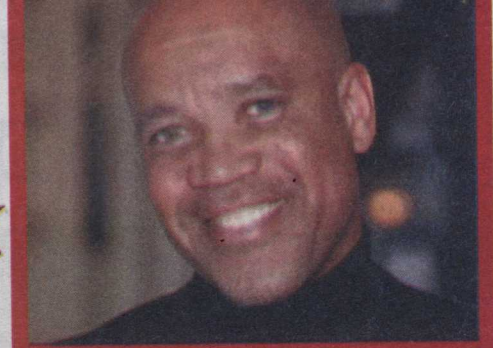
- LADWP customers can sign up to receive outage alerts via text or email at www.ladwp.com/outagealert.

- LADWP also shares updates on outage restoration progress to affected communities via NextDoor.com.

City News Service contributed to this article.



Vainayaki – see page A-5



Kerry Gordy – see page C-3

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MAYOR.LACITY.GOV

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COURTESY PHOTO

Interim Fire Chief Ronnie Villanueva

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Los Angeles' First Black Mayor's Residence



Chris Roy – see page A-7



Geneisha Davis – see page D-1



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"For Over Ninety Years The Voice of Our Community Speaking for Itself"

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2025

MAGA Recall Effort Fails Against Mayor Karen Bass

Community leaders condemn the campaign and applaud its demise.

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Managing Editor

Right wing Republicans filed a recall petition against Mayor Karen Bass this past February and on Aug. 4, it totally fizzled out.

Apparently, recall leader Nicole Shanahan, San Francisco Bay Area businesswoman, and her cohorts were unable to garner widespread support or obtain 300,000+ signatures to support the initiative, which led to its death.

But instead of tears, community leaders are

cheering the demise of the campaign and standing solidly behind the mayor. As Bass explained, "Ange-lenos did not want the distraction of a recall to take away from the focus of solving serious problems in the city."

In fact, the mayor gained many supporters for deftly handling multiple challenges facing Los Angeles over the last few months, from expediting wildfire recovery to sheltering the unhoused to fighting

{See **MAYOR BASS RECALL FAILS** on A-11}



COURTESY PHOTO

Mayor Bass is supported by community members as she denounces actions taken by the Trump administration against Angelenos.



AP PHOTO/DAMIAN DOVARGANES

Mayor Karen Bass, at podium, surrounded by city and state officials, veterans and community members, speaks about the U.S. Marines deployed by the Trump administration in Los Angeles, during a news conference at the Los Angeles Mission College in Sylmar, Calif., Monday, July 21, 2025.



LERROY HAMILTON PHOTO

L.A. County Fed President
Yvonne Wheeler



COURTESY PHOTO

Council President Marqueece Harris-Dawson

Eaton Fire Rebuild Senior Summit: Community Heals Community

BY DR. MARIE Y. LEMELLE,
MBA, PhD
Special to the Sentinel

Nearly eight months after the devastating Altadena wildfire, recovery can still feel out of reach for

many, especially older adults navigating loss, trauma, and displacement. But on August 2, 2025, hope returned in the form of over 500 attendees—primarily seniors and their families and friends—gathering at

the Hilton Pasadena for the second Eaton Fire Rebuild Senior Summit. The message was clear: no one would be left behind.

Spearheaded by Lena Louise Kennedy, President and CEO of Community

Women Vital Voices, the summit served as a day-long sanctuary—a space to find clarity, comfort, and community. "The summit is a safe and empowering space for seniors to ask questions, find support, and receive

clarity on the next steps in rebuilding their lives and homes," said Kennedy.

"Our mission was to give our seniors and the community a day of nourishment for both body and soul."

A full breakfast and lunch were served, and a wellness room offered tranquility. Dozens of vendors and service providers were

{See **EATON FIRE REBUILD SENIOR SUMMIT** on A-11}



Make Memorable Moments with MEDASE Mocktails

By ZON D'AMOUR
Contributing Writer

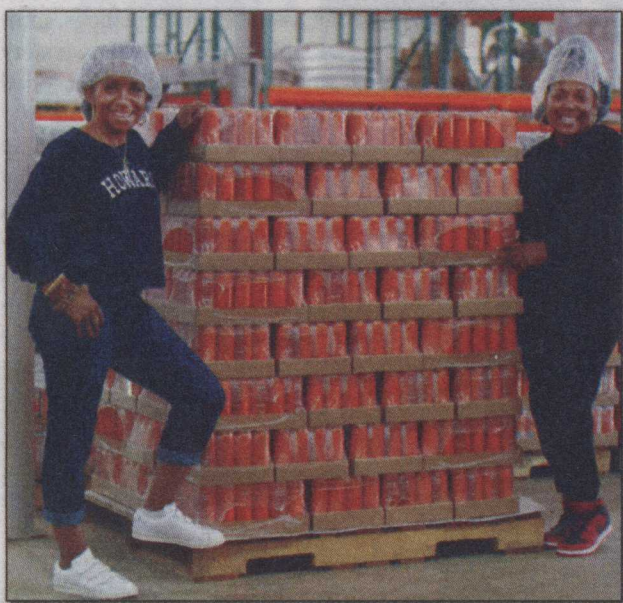
When there's cause for celebration, reach for a can of "MEDASE", an organic, premium mocktail brand founded by best friends Monica Cornitcher and Inga Dyer. The word "MEDASE" originates from the Ghanaian Twi language, meaning "Thank You."

Dyer and Cornitcher first met thirty years ago as students at Howard University.

During the pandemic, while Dyer was battling breast cancer and Cornitcher was experiencing challenges with her mental health, their friendship deepened and they became safe spaces for each other, without judgment.

When asked about the origin of the business, Cornitcher told the Sentinel that when she and Dyer reflected on their most fun times, they realized that many gatherings often include drinks and a celebratory toast. However, since they didn't drink alcohol, they tried a plethora of non-alcoholic beverages. Unimpressed by the current selection of mocktails on the market, the pair began the process of creating their own.

With Dyer's background as a lawyer and Cornitcher's experience running her own technology company, the line sisters (Cornitcher and Dyer are members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.) knew they would be exceptional business partners.



(L-to-R) MEDASE Co-Founders Inga Dyer and Monica Cornitcher.

In an effort to create the perfect mocktail, the pair worked with food scientist, beverage consultant, and chemist Patrice Newsom for over a year to ensure the flavors were up to par. Cornitcher gives insight into the formulation process to ensure that the mocktail flavors, including the "Hello Sunshine Margarita," "Goodnight Moon Moscow Mule," "Hey Big Dipper Old Fashion," "Sun Kissed Lemon Drop," "Heavana Can't Wait Mojito," and "Golden Hour Jamaican Rum Punch" bore an authentic resemblance to their cocktail namesakes.

"We knew these flavors were going to be organic, but if you take, for example, organic apple juice and concentrated apple juice, they

taste so differently. We needed to build a mocktail that didn't have an aftertaste, and sometimes organic drinks have that, so it was a labor of love to get to this point in our journey where we've got six non-hemp flavors on the market. We're going to do a production run of our hemp flavors in the coming months, so that we'll have all 12 on the market at the same time. Most people have one, maybe two flavors, but we've got the full lineup, and we're ready to go," raved Cornitcher.

"This is more than just a drink—it's an experience," she added. "We're not telling people not to drink [alcohol], we're giving them a different way of experiencing drinking, which is why our mocktails really are curated to taste like

a cocktail, whether that be our Moscow Mule, the margarita—and if you've been to Jamaica—a Jamaican Rum Punch that has the extra nutmeg in it. All of those things were important to us when we decided to work with Newsom as our chemist."

Cornitcher shares how she had the resilience to persevere with MEDASE after the passing of her Co-Founder, Inga Dyer, to breast cancer, as well as the sudden passing of her brother to pancreatic cancer.

"I have a daughter with an amazing spirit who's pushing me through and giving me all of the courage and unconditional love that just makes you want to get up, smile, laugh, and be joyful. In the midst of all of this grief, living is important for the person who's still here as well as continuing to build a legacy, and sometimes it's in their name. So while a part of me didn't know how I could go on, I also felt like I couldn't let Inga down because we had a plan. It's all written down. It took us a year to write our five-year plan. So I can't let her down. I had to get up and find a way."

Cornitcher continues, "So what I would say to entrepreneurs overcoming a loss is to make sure your plan during that time is very clear. Because what can happen, without a clear plan, you fall into entrepreneurial frustrations and then

your grief comes back. So you have to make sure that your plan is set in stone, so that you stay motivated to accomplish your goals. Let the person you lost motivate you. Let the people who don't think you can make it happen motivate you to keep moving forward."

Cornitcher's unwavering commitment to her and Dyer's business has resulted in many celebratory moments for their brand, including MEDASE being one of the official non-alcoholic beverages at the renowned Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival.

fast that you start selling your company off. Inga and I personally invested a lot of our own money into the business, and we knew if we wanted to continue to grow, we needed money, but take your time. We've had influential people say, 'If I get 10% of your business, then I can do xyz for you.' We could have sold off a whole lot of percentages even before we even got out the door, because people knew we had a good idea, a great strategy, unique packaging, and we wow people with the taste."

"Of course, everyone wants to make a million dollars, but take your time,



The six MEDASE mocktail flavors: Old Fashion, Jamaican Rum Punch, Moscow Mule, Margarita, Lemon Drop and Mojito.

After experiencing success with a direct-to-consumer business model, Cornitcher shares that her next goal for MEDASE includes all 12 skewers being available in big-box retailers like Publix and Costco.

Cornitcher imparts these final words of wisdom on aspiring entrepreneurs. "Take your time and don't rush to make everything happen so

be strategic about the decisions that you make because there are people who are only associated with the name of their business, but they're no longer the owners, so think about the type of deals that are best for your business long term."

You can purchase MEDASE at <http://MEDASEcocktails.com> and on Amazon.



It's important for parents to ensure their children are properly equipped to begin the new school year.

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

As students across Southern California get ready for a new school year, many parents are wondering what steps they should take to ensure their children are best prepared to succeed in the classroom.

Following many weeks of summer vacation, it's important to take certain actions to ensure children are fully prepared to return to school in good health, both physically and mentally, according to Dr. Danielle Flowers, a pediatrician with Kaiser Permanente

in Mission Hills, advised parents to ensure their children get an annual physical exam and make sure they are up to date on vaccines before they return to the classroom.

"An annual physical exam isn't just a checkbox on the to-do list—it's an essential part of ensuring a child's overall health and catching issues before they become problems," Dr. Flowers said.

Here's why they're so valuable:

- Doctors can identify potential concerns (like hearing, vision, or developmental

Is Your Child Prepared for Success in the New School Year?

before they start school.

Proper Backpack

Before school starts, it's important to make sure a child has a well-fitting backpack that won't be too heavy and cause back pain.

"Kids may be excited to return to school, but dragging around a heavy or poorly designed backpack can lead to some not-so-fun consequences," Dr. Flowers said.

Here's why a well-fitting, lightweight backpack matters more than we might think:

- Children's bones and muscles are still developing, so carrying excessive weight can strain their spines, shoulders and necks.

- Poor posture from heavy bags may lead to long-term issues like scoliosis or chronic back pain.

- An uneven or overly large backpack throws off

them during a crucial time in their development.

Here's why it matters:

- Young brains are rapidly growing and benefit from real-world experiences—not constant digital stimulation.

- Social media can shorten attention spans, making it harder for kids to concentrate in school or play imaginatively.

- Exposure to unrealistic images or "perfect lives" can

distort a child's self-image and confidence.

- Even with filters, platforms can expose children to violence, bullying, misinformation, or adult themes.

- Algorithms don't always know what's age-appropriate, and kids can stumble into content that's confusing or harmful.

Studies link excessive social media use with

increased anxiety, depression and sleep disturbances. Limiting access frees up time for active play, reading, creativity and outdoor adventures—all of which build stronger minds and bodies.

"It's not about demonizing technology—it's about giving children the space to grow naturally and safely," Dr. Flowers said.

Simon Burris: Africana Diaspora Black History Month II Crossword

AFRICAN-ISH: MOVIES & TV

www.simonburris700.com

Across

- **Alex Haley's TV miniseries: (1977)
- **Denzel Washington's Oscar-winning movie
- **Murphy of "Beverly Hills Cop"
- *President Obama's home state:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11						12			
13			14		15		16		



Davina Douthard - see page A-3



Dr. Breona McQueen - see page D-1

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"For Over Ninety Years The Voice of Our Community Speaking for Itself"

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2025

Michelle Avan Murderer Convicted on All Charges

BY DANNY J. BAKEWELL, JR.
Executive Editor

Former bank executive Anthony Turner was found guilty of murder on Tuesday, August 12, in the death of his ex-girlfriend -- Michelle Avan, a prominent banking executive -- inside her Reseda home.

A jury found Turner guilty on all counts. The murder included charges of "special circumstance"

which the jury found also to be true. Turner who had entered a plea of not guilty was convicted on all charges including murder and burglary.

The jury ruled that Turner had in fact beaten and killed Avan, who was 48 years old at the time of her murder. A prosecutor told jurors last week that circumstantial evidence "overwhelmingly" pointed toward the guilt of Turner

in the 2021 death of Avan. Turner's attorney suggested that the woman's injuries could have been self-inflicted after an emotional break-up.

Avan was a dear friend to many and had a promising career as a senior vice president with Bank of America. She was known throughout the community as a consummate executive who had a passion for serving the community and

worked tirelessly to recruit women and under-represented employees nationally on behalf of Bank of America and the greater business community.

According to several close friends, Michelle Avan actively enriched the lives of so many people. She worked closely with several community organizations including the Bank

{See MICHELLE AVAN
MURDERER on B-7}



ABCNEWS.COM

Michelle Avan

Metro Continues the Marathon with New TAP Cards

The late rapper and entrepreneur Nipsey Hussle will be featured on the limited edition TAP cards.

BY BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

L.A. Metro recently revealed their latest campaign honoring the legacy of late hip-hop icon,

Nipsey Hussle, in collaboration with his estate, with two limited edition TAP cards that pay tribute to his life and cultural impact on Los Angeles.

"The idea came about

to connect Metro more meaningfully with the communities it serves, particularly around Crenshaw and Slauson, where Nipsey built both a business and a movement," said a Metro

representative.

"By placing his image on these two limited editions TAP cards, we're not only recognizing his impact but also offering riders a tangible, lasting

tribute to his influence on L.A. culture, entrepreneurship, and community uplift."

Metro shared that Hussle was someone who understood the power of

public transportation to building community, increasing accessibility, and creating opportunity. In celebrating his life and what would have been his 40th birthday, the two commemorative TAP card designs include: "Crenshaw & Slauson," which is a black-and-white horizontal portrait of Nipsey on the streets of Crenshaw, captured by renowned hip-hop photographer, Jonathan Mannion. The other design is "Watts," a color-stylized horizontal portrait of Nipsey on a Metro bus.

Metro is only releasing 12,000 of these limited editions TAP cards starting Friday, August 15. Riders will be able to get the new cards at select Metro station ticket vending machines,

{See NIPSEY HUSSLE
TAP CARDS on B-7}



COURTESY PHOTO

The "Watts," TAP card is a color-stylized horizontal portrait of Nipsey on a Metro bus.



COURTESY PHOTO

The "Crenshaw & Slauson," TAP card is a black-and-white horizontal portrait of Nipsey on the streets of Crenshaw.

'The Black Family Who Built America' Sheds Light on Centuries-Old Construction Company

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor



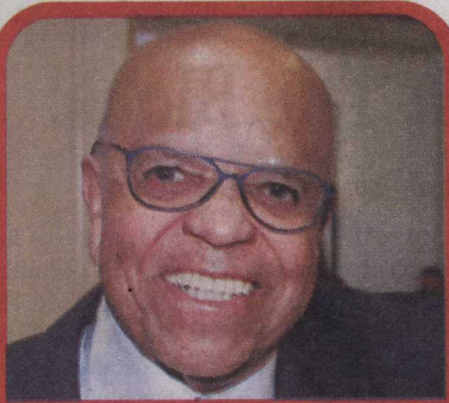
'Compton to the World': Compton Fest 2025 Returns Louder, Stronger and Saving Lives

BY NATHAN J. LEE
Contributing Writer

"Compton Fest saved my life," a teary-eyed



#11 Frances Howard Goldwyn
Hollywood Regional Library
1623 Ivar Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90028



Berry Gordy – see page A-3



Rachel Simone Webb – see page C-2

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"For Over Ninety Years The Voice of Our Community Speaking for Itself"

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

L.A. Region Experiences Decline in Homelessness for Second Consecutive Year



MAYOR.LACITY.GOV

During a press conference, Mayor Karen Bass, at podium, outlines the improvements revealed by the annual point-in-time homeless count.



AP PHOTO/MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ

Mayor Karen Bass, left, shakes hands with Faith Pennington, a homeless woman living in a tiny homes community, in the North Hollywood section of Los Angeles Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2023.

By JOSE HERRERA
City News Service

The Greater Los Angeles region experienced a second consecutive year-over-year decline in people experiencing homelessness, according to figures released July 14, but authorities warned that more housing will be needed to continue the downward trend.

The annual point-in-time

homeless count showed there was a 4% decrease in unhoused people across the county, while in the city of Los Angeles, there was a 3.4% drop, according to data released by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, which was created as a joint city-county organization overseeing funding and

{See **LOS ANGELES HOMELESS COUNT** on B-6}

Metro Holds State of Agency Address, Looks at Accomplishments and the Future



BRIAN W. CARTER/LA. SENTINEL

L.A. County Supervisor and former Metro Board Chair Janice Hahn welcomes City of Whittier Councilmember Fernando Dutra.



BRIAN W. CARTER/LA. SENTINEL

Metro's state of agency address shared the progress made towards strategic goals in the last fiscal year and announced its goals for the current fiscal year.

By BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

"We're doing this for you," said Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins at the State of the Agency Address, "for every L.A. County resi-

dent, who has helped us build this system and who deserves a better, cleaner, safer, easier alternative to sitting in traffic."

Recently held at the Los Angeles Union Station, Metro's annual event looked

back on its accomplishments. Wiggins, L.A. County Supervisor and former Metro Board Chair Janice Hahn, and Board Chair and City of Whittier Councilmember Fernando Dutra shared the progress Metro

has made towards strategic goals in the last fiscal year (2025) and announced its goals for the current fiscal year (2026).

"This was a year when Metro didn't just operate—we showed up," said Hahn.

"When devastating wildfires swept through communities, we made Metro free for all of our riders and provided lessons that got the firefighters where they needed to be, we even had Metro staff stationed for weeks in

the recovery centers to help fire victims in person."

Hahn continued, "Over 6,000 fire survivors enrolled in our LIFE program providing them 20 free rides for six

{See **METRO AGENCY ADDRESS** on B-7}

BLM Grassroots Marks 12 Years with Global Convening, Calls for Urgent Support and Funding

How Sonja Norwood Managed Brandy and Ray J's Rise to Fame Expectations



During a press conference, Mayor Karen Bass, at podium, outlines the improvements revealed by the annual point-in-time homeless count.



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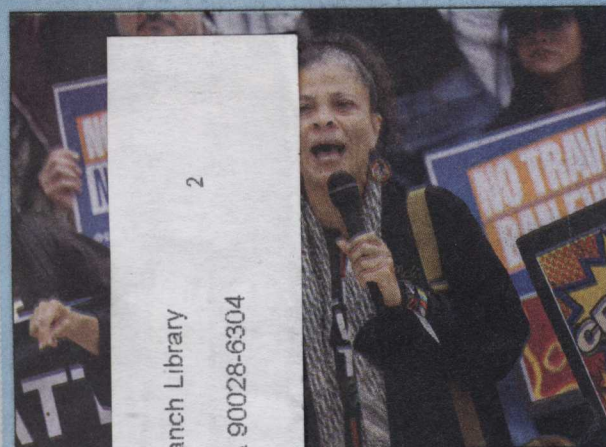
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{See METRO AGENCY ADDRESS on B-7}

BLM Grassroots Marks 12 Years with Global Convening, Calls for Urgent Support and Funding



Melina Abdullahers a special announcement Bradley International Airport

By LILA B.
Contributing Writer

Black Lives Matter Grassroots marked its 12th anniversary with an international convening of

AP PHOTO/ETIENNE LAURENT
Melina Abdullahers a special announcement Bradley International Airport

chapter leaders in Leimert Park on July 11, bringing together more than 80 organizers from across the United States and around the globe, including the newest chapter from

Stockholm, Sweden.

Held at the Center for Black Power, the annual gathering celebrated the movement's longevity while addressing the growing need for resources, accountability and strategic alignment. Organizers emphasized that while Black Lives Matter Grassroots remains committed to justice and abolitionist principles, the work is becoming increasingly difficult to sustain without significant financial backing.

"It would be amazing if our work could actually be resourced," said Dr. Melina Abdullah, co-founder and director of BLM Grassroots. "We urgently need funding to

{See BLACK LIVES MATTER on B-7}

How Sonja Norwood Managed Brandy and Ray J's Rise to Fame Expectations



COURTESY PHOTO
Sonja Norwood poses in a recent portrait.

By KEITH L. UNDERWOOD
Entertainment Writer

For decades, Sonja Norwood has been a powerful yet often underestimated force behind some of the most recognizable names in Black entertainment — including her children, R&B singer Brandy and entrepreneur-artist Ray J.

{See SONJA NORWOOD on B-7}



COURTESY PHOTO
Three generations: Brandy, her daughter Sy'rai, and mother Sonja Norwood.

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Los Angeles WAVE NEWSPAPERS

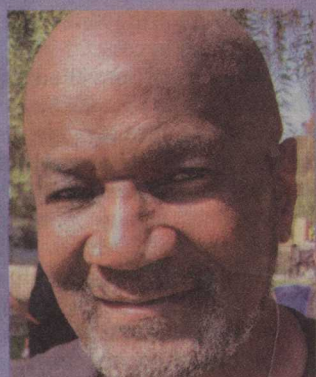
Vol 108 • No. 34

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STREET BEAT

'What power do the people really have?'



RICHARD FLETCHER
HAYWARD

"None. The politicians we have in office today are going to do what they're going to do regardless and are going to spin the narrative to make it work."



TONY MORGAN
ALAMEDA

"I think we're pretty powerful, but we've abdicated our power and just kind of thrown up our hands. It's almost a dictatorship now."



ELLE WORTHAM
OAKLAND

"Our power comes from a democracy that works. Voting works, but you have to respect the democracy, and our democracy is not being respected."



RAE SMITH

'Markers of our history'

Tom Bradley home is one of 6 sites honoring LA's Black past

WAVE STAFF REPORT

LOS ANGELES — Three years after Getty and the city announced a collaboration to honor historic Black places in the city, the first six sites have been announced.

The designations are the result of the ongoing work of African American Historic Places Los Angeles launched by the city and Getty in 2022 to identify, protect and celebrate the city's Black heritage. Each site represents a unique piece of Los Angeles' Black history.

The sites, all designated historical cultural monuments, include St. Elmo Village, the Tom and Ethel Bradley Residence, Jewel's Catch One and the California Eagle offices in South Los Angeles. Stylesville Barbershop & Beauty Salon in Pacoima and New Bethel Baptist Church in Venice also were selected.

City Councilwoman Heather Hutt and representatives from Getty placed plaques designating the sites as historic monuments at the Bradley residence, St. Elmo's Village and Jewel's Catch One Aug. 14. The New Bethel Baptist Church and California Eagle office already had received their plaques. A celebration for Stylesville Barbershop & Beauty Salon will be held at a later date.

"These historic buildings are not only markers of our history but remain vibrant social and cultural hubs for the African American community in Los Angeles, connecting the past with the present," said Rita Cofield, associate project specialist at the Getty Conservation Institute and leader of the African American Historic Places Los Angeles project. "Their official landmark status ensures that these cherished spaces and their legacy endure, inspiring generations to come." Three of the sites were in Hutt's 10th Council District. "As we unveil these



City Councilwoman Heather Hutt is flanked by Phyllis and Lorraine Bradley, the daughters of Tom and Ethel Bradley, outside the Bradleys former home in Leimert Park Aug. 14. The home has been designated a historical cultural monument under a collaboration between the city and Getty.

Courtesy photo

plaques today, we're doing more than just honoring legacies — we're cementing their story in the permanent record of our city," Hutt said. "We live in a time where accurate depictions of our history are often under threat, where important stories can be overlooked or even erased. Today, we take a stand against that. We are making a promise to future generations that this

legacy of unity, service and courage will not be forgotten." "Council District 10 is the tapestry of Los Angeles, filled with the stories and histories of everyday Angelenos," Hutt added. "These landmark designations are more than just plaques; they are powerful reminders of the strength and joy of Black L.A."

"By honoring sites like St. Elmo Village, the Tom and

Ethel Bradley Residence, and Jewel's Catch One, we are not only preserving our city's shared history, we're ensuring that future generations recognize the vital role African Americans have played in shaping Los Angeles."

An advisory committee comprised of civic, community and cultural leaders selected each site from the existing African American History of

LA context document based on theme, geographic location and gender diversity that reflect various aspects of African-American heritage throughout the city. Sites went before the city's Cultural Heritage Commission for nomination and were approved by the City Council.

St. Elmo's Village, 4830 St. Elmo Drive, is an artist enclave

See **MARKERS**, Page 11

From inmate to CEO

Former gang member to lead students at West LA College

By **SHIRLEY HAWKINS**
Contributing Writer

CULVER CITY — Kyle Maddox knows all too well the value of a second chance.

Maddox, 36, went from living in a tiny 6 by 12 feet jail cell to being elected student body president of West Los Angeles College, where school starts Sept. 2.

The son of a single mother, Maddox grew up in the streets



Sex trade crackdown paying off on Figueroa

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

LOS ANGELES — When law enforcement officials last week announced the arrest of six members of a South Los Angeles street gang on sex trafficking charges, it was the culmination of an ongoing operation that began last September between city, county and federal law enforcement agencies.

The suspects were arrested on federal charges alleging they acted as pimps to promote and manage sex trafficking of adults and minors on the notorious Figueroa corridor in South Los

on some of the most vulnerable in our community, including children. Far too often, we see countless people become victims at the hands of this multi-billion-dollar business that is nothing short of modern-day slavery.

The defendants were charged with racketeering conspiracy, including sex trafficking of children and adults through force, fraud or coercion.

Involved in the investigation were prosecutors and investigators from the U.S. Attorney's Los Angeles office, the Los Angeles Police Department South Bureau Human Trafficking Task Force and the Los Angeles

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Los Angeles WAVE NEWSPAPERS

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'Black August' is not your normal holiday

STREET BEAT

'What is your pet peeve about today's society?'



ALEXANDER CARDENAS
ALAMEDA

"The disconnect between the haves, the have nots, and the never have enoughs. The never have enoughs don't care about the rest of us."



TOYA WORTHAM
SAN FRANCISCO

"If you're in the top 1%, you're able to afford these really expensive houses or apartments. If you're in middle income, there's not really any opportunity to buy a home."



KAREN COMBS
ALAMEDA

"The lack of empathy. People just don't care about each other anymore. I'm talking about the states and the countries."



BRITTANI CARDENAS

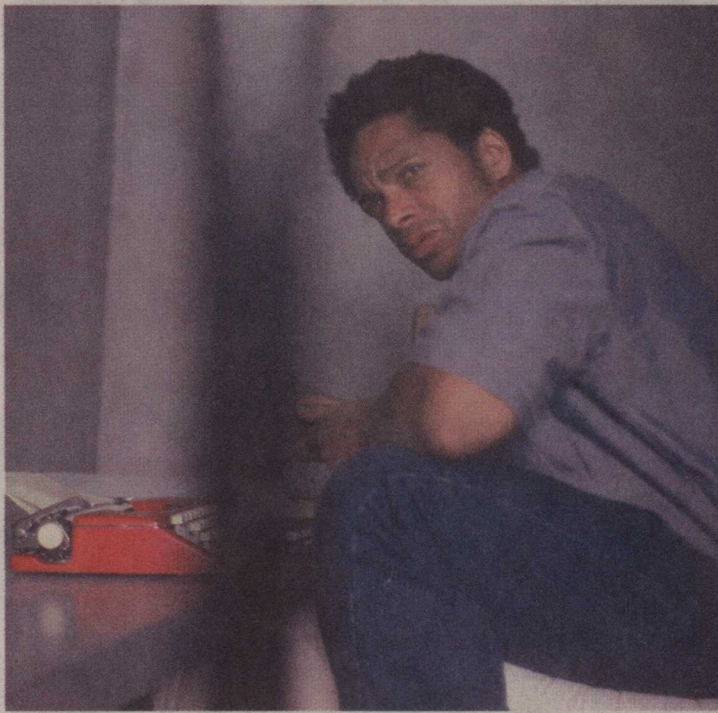
Month-long event honors those killed or imprisoned in fight for liberation

By **STEPHEN ODUNTAN**
Contributing Writer

LOS ANGELES — In Los Angeles and beyond, Black August is not a festival or holiday. Born inside California's prison system more than four decades ago, it is a month of fasting, study and remembrance — a time to honor political prisoners, mourn those killed in the struggle for liberation and confront the systems that continue to cage and kill.

It is not, organizers stress, a celebration. Black August is solemn by design — a month of

Stephen Oduntan is a freelance reporter for Wave Newspapers.



Gary Dourdan portrayed George Jackson in the 2007 film 'Black August.' The film portrayed Jackson and fellow prisoners that died in prison during the 1970s.

Courtesy photo

discipline and reflection, rooted in a lineage of resistance that has always come at a price.

The tradition began in the wake of the Jan. 13, 1970, killings at Soledad Prison, when three Black inmates — W.L. Nolan, Cleveland Edwards and Alvin Miller — were gunned down by guards during an interracial fight. Journalist and cultural worker Thandisizwe Chimurenga said that during the incident, guards didn't fire warning shots.

"They aimed directly at the Black prisoners," she said. "You could say it was a planned assassination. No guard faced accountability. It was ruled justifiable — just like when police kill us on the streets."

Weeks later, a guard was killed at Soledad. George Jackson and two others — the "Soledad Brothers" — were charged with murder and faced the death penalty. Their case galvanized activists statewide, linking prison conditions to the broader struggle for Black liberation.

Los Angeles quickly became

a hub for that movement. Many central figures — George and Jonathan Jackson, Geronimo Pratt, Bunchy Carter, John Huggins and Sondra Pratt — had deep ties to the city. Chimurenga said imprisoned activists saw themselves as "the prison wing of the Black Power movement."

As she described it: "When we leave prison, we are ready to join your movement — but until then, we will survive here, protect one another, call out the racism and take action against it where necessary."

Harold Welton, now in his 60s, first read "The Autobiography of Malcolm X" as a teenager growing up in Avalon Gardens near Watts. In the late 1970s and early '80s, he was in and out of juvenile custody and the L.A. County Jail, including what he calls a politically motivated arrest alongside other activists — experiences that shaped his commitment to the causes at the heart of Black August.

Welton helped organize a **See AUGUST, Page 11**

FIGHTING THE POWER



Immigrant rights advocates and their supporters marched around MacArthur Park Aug. 12 as part of a daylong 'community stoppage' that included a 24-hour boycott of various businesses, in opposition to federal immigration enforcement operations. See story on page 4.

Photo by Lorenzo Gomez

Price facing new charges of corruption

FROM CITY NEWS SERVICE

LOS ANGELES — City Councilman Curren Price — already facing multiple charges of grand theft and perjury for allegedly voting in favor of projects in which his wife had a financial interest — is due in L.A. criminal court again Aug. 14 after being hit with two new public corruption charges.

Prosecutors Aug. 12 filed the two new counts against the 74-year-old councilman from the Ninth District, which includes most of South Los Angeles and Exposition Park — a district Price has represented since 2013 after previously serving in the Assembly and state Senate.

He was previously charged in June 2023 with five felony counts of embezzlement of government funds, three felony counts of perjury and two felony counts of conflict of interest and pleaded not guilty.

See PRICE, Page 11

Reproductive rights key topic at Black women's forum

By **SHIRLEY HAWKINS**
Contributing Writer

LOS ANGELES — Black women in the United States are likely to die three times more often during childbirth than white women. What makes the statistics even more harrowing is that 80% of pregnancy related deaths are preventable.

Those statistics and others like it were discussed Aug. 7 at the Black Women for Wellness' 26th annual Reproductive Jus-



women who continue to fight for reproductive rights, we are not broken, we are brilliant."

Since the U.S. Supreme Court voted to overturn the Roe v. Wade decision in 2022, 41 states have some kind of restrictions on abortions and 14 have total abortion bans.

Thousands of pregnant women now must travel to other states to receive abortions including California, which is a protective state.

Other states have rendered abortion care practically un-

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New 'Serenity Building' houses needy seniors

\$41 million project in SOLA provides social services, too

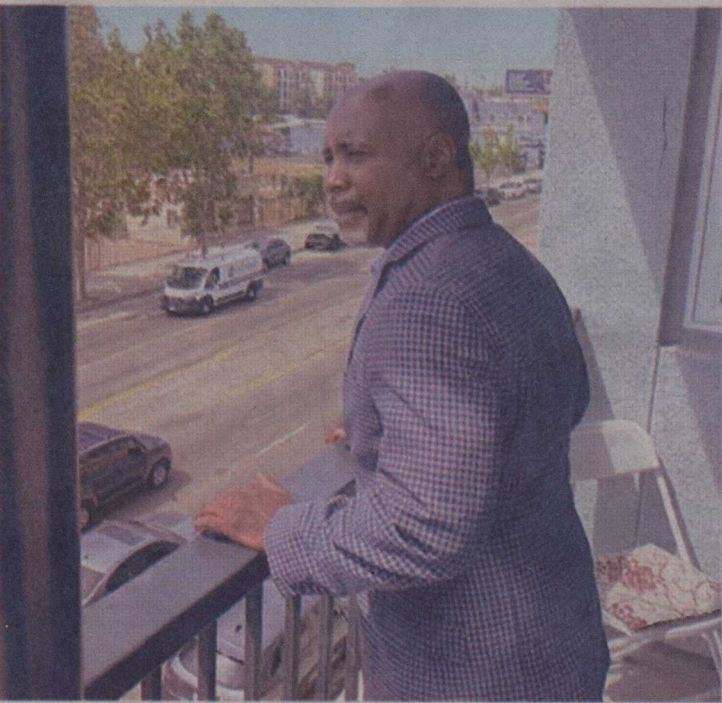
By **RAY RICHARDSON**
Contributing Writer

SOUTH LOS ANGELES — A new \$41 million facility named the Serenity Building is drawing high praise for helping to end homelessness for seniors and providing a satellite office for the Los Angeles Urban League.

The dual role of the Serenity Building is being celebrated as one of the most significant achievements for Councilman Marqueece Harris-Dawson during his term as Los Angeles City Council president.

"When somebody looks you

Ray Richardson is a contributing writer for The Wave. He can be reached at rayrich55@gmail.com.



City Council President Marqueece Harris-Dawson looks down on Manchester Avenue from one of the housing units at the Serenity Building.

Photo by Ray Richardson

in the eye and tells you they thought they were going to die, but now they have a place to live, nothing compares to that," Harris-Dawson said after a grand opening ceremony for the Serenity Building Aug. 21. "This is very moving for me to see Serenity open with tenants who needed our help."

Harris-Dawson introduced a bond measure in 2015 known as Proposition HHH to help create long-term funding for affordable housing structures throughout Los Angeles. Voters approved the \$1.2 billion bond appropriation in 2016.

The Serenity Building is the 100th project that's been completed since the approval of Proposition HHH. Twenty more housing complexes with the bond funding are currently under construction in Harris-Dawson's Eighth District.

South Side Church Of Christ, located next door to the land where Serenity was built on West Manchester Avenue, played a monumental role in

bringing together investors and developers. South Side Church Of Christ Pastor Carl Baccus calls the Serenity Building a "vision of love."

"I can remember a lot of days and nights talking about getting this building built," Baccus said. "We have members in our congregation who would not give up."

Construction began in 2022. Of the 50 studio and one-bedroom apartments in Serenity, 36 were reserved for homeless seniors. Baccus said providing housing for seniors was a major priority for the project.

"It makes me proud to know that people are thinking about our seniors like this," said KJLH-FM Morning News Host Adai Lamar, a longtime advocate for senior housing in South Los Angeles. "This is the time to get innovative ... to get outside of our comfort zone. These seniors are close to the resources they need."

In addition to moving into

See **HOUSING**, Page 11

ALL THAT JAZZ!



Justo Almario's Afro-Colombian Ensemble performs at the 2024 Leimert Park Jazz Festival. The sixth annual festival will take place Aug. 30 at the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza. See story on page 2.

Courtesy photo

Jury awards \$3.8M to man shot in face by LA deputy

WAVE STAFF REPORT

LOS ANGELES — A jury has awarded \$3.8 million to filmmaker Cellin Gluck and his daughter Caroline Gluck, finding Los Angeles County negligent for injuries sustained when Gluck was shot in the face by a non-lethal projectile while chaperoning his children during a George Floyd protest in 2020.

His daughter was awarded damages for witnessing her father being shot. It is the largest jury award or settlement arising from the spring 2020 protest lawsuits.

The verdict was delivered Aug. 20 at the Stanley Mosk Courthouse, presided over by Judge Michael Shultz.

Gluck, 66, was unarmed and photographing the crowd near Beverly Boulevard and Stanley Avenue when he was hit by a rubber bullet fired by a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy. The impact fractured his face, embedded shrapnel in his nasal cavity (removed nine months later), and left him with permanent disfigurement, vision

See **VERDICT** Page 11

'Ghost bike' event honors 11 kids killed on bikes

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

SOUTH LOS ANGELES — A "ghost bike" installation and memorial bike ride was held Aug. 24 to honor 11 children killed in traffic accidents here this year, organizers said.

The most recent victim is 12-year-old Michael Smith, who was fatally struck by a speeding hit-and-run driver at 83rd and Main streets while riding his bicycle on July 22. A ghost bike memorial was in-



According Damian Kevitt of Streets Are For Everyone, Smith started running his own ice cream truck when he was 7 and dreamed of growing the business before his life was cut short while on his way to meet a friend.

Streets Are For Everyone reported in a blog post that Smith was riding on 83rd Street approaching Main Street when he was hit by a driver reported to be speeding at 75 miles an hour on the city street.

STREET BEAT

'What is your favorite thing about living in L.A.?'



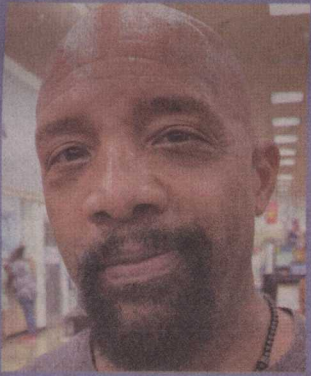
TANZY SCOTT
INGLEWOOD

"The weather and the movie stars. We have good weather 365 days a year and today we had Tariji P. Henson here at Vons promoting her new wine collection."



EULANDA LYNN MATTHEWS
LEIMERT PARK

"The weather, the new transportation line that almost takes you to the airport, all the restaurants, the entertainment. I could go on and on. I love L.A."



BYRON MINNS
LOS ANGELES

"The weather. The sense of community, especially in Leimert Park and I love the L.A. vibe."



EVELYN BROWN